

Notice of Allowability

Application No.

10/809,562

Examiner

Jeanne-Marguerite Goodwin

Applicant(s)

WATANABE ET AL.

Art Unit

2841

-- The MAILING DATE of this communication appears on the cover sheet with the correspondence address--

All claims being allowable, PROSECUTION ON THE MERITS IS (OR REMAINS) CLOSED in this application. If not included herewith (or previously mailed), a Notice of Allowance (PTOL-85) or other appropriate communication will be mailed in due course. **THIS NOTICE OF ALLOWABILITY IS NOT A GRANT OF PATENT RIGHTS.** This application is subject to withdrawal from issue at the initiative of the Office or upon petition by the applicant. See 37 CFR 1.313 and MPEP 1308.

1. ☒ This communication is responsive to 3/25/04.
2. ☒ The allowed claim(s) is/are 1-4.
3. ☒ Acknowledgment is made of a claim for foreign priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119(a)-(d) or (f).
 - a) ☐ All b) ☐ Some* c) ☒ None of the:
 1. ☒ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received.
 2. ☐ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received in Application No. _____.
 3. ☐ Copies of the certified copies of the priority documents have been received in this national stage application from the International Bureau (PCT Rule 17.2(a)).

* Certified copies not received: _____.

Applicant has THREE MONTHS FROM THE "MAILING DATE" of this communication to file a reply complying with the requirements noted below. Failure to timely comply will result in ABANDONMENT of this application.

THIS THREE-MONTH PERIOD IS NOT EXTENDABLE.

4. ☐ A SUBSTITUTE OATH OR DECLARATION must be submitted. Note the attached EXAMINER'S AMENDMENT or NOTICE OF INFORMAL PATENT APPLICATION (PTO-152) which gives reason(s) why the oath or declaration is deficient.
5. ☐ CORRECTED DRAWINGS (as "replacement sheets") must be submitted.
 - (a) ☐ including changes required by the Notice of Draftsperson's Patent Drawing Review (PTO-948) attached
 - 1) ☐ hereto or 2) ☐ to Paper No./Mail Date _____.
 - (b) ☐ including changes required by the attached Examiner's Amendment / Comment or in the Office action of Paper No./Mail Date _____.Identifying indicia such as the application number (see 37 CFR 1.84(c)) should be written on the drawings in the front (not the back) of each sheet. Replacement sheet(s) should be labeled as such in the header according to 37 CFR 1.121(d).
6. ☐ DEPOSIT OF and/or INFORMATION about the deposit of BIOLOGICAL MATERIAL must be submitted. Note the attached Examiner's comment regarding REQUIREMENT FOR THE DEPOSIT OF BIOLOGICAL MATERIAL.

Attachment(s)

1. ☒ Notice of References Cited (PTO-892)
2. ☐ Notice of Draftsperson's Patent Drawing Review (PTO-948)
3. ☒ Information Disclosure Statements (PTO-1449 or PTO/SB/08),
Paper No./Mail Date 3/25/04 & 3/3/06
4. ☐ Examiner's Comment Regarding Requirement for Deposit
of Biological Material
5. ☐ Notice of Informal Patent Application (PTO-152)
6. ☐ Interview Summary (PTO-413),
Paper No./Mail Date _____.
7. ☐ Examiner's Amendment/Comment
8. ☒ Examiner's Statement of Reasons for Allowance
9. ☐ Other _____.

Reason for Allowance

The following is an examiner's statement of reasons for allowance:

The reference to JP11023741 to Katsuyoshi et al. shows a chronograph timepiece for indicating a date comprising timepiece having a calendar mechanism, a power source by a mainspring provided in a barrel complete, a base unit including a main plate constituting a base plate of a movement, a surface train wheel rotated based on rotation of the barrel complete and an escapement/speed control apparatus for controlling rotation of the surface train wheel and having at least one of an automatic winding apparatus and a hand winding apparatus; and a chronograph unit including a second indicating mechanism, a second chronograph train wheel, a minute chronograph train wheel, an hour chronograph train wheel and a calendar mechanism; wherein the chronograph unit is arranged on a side of the base unit having a dial; and wherein the calendar mechanism includes a date indicator and a date feeding mechanism and the date feeding mechanism is overlapping any one of the second indicating mechanism, arrange no the second chronograph train wheel, the minute chronograph train wheel and the hour chronograph train wheel. Applicants' claimed invention teaches a calendar mechanism includes a date indicator and a date feeding mechanism and the date feeding mechanism is not overlapping any one of the second indicating mechanism, arrange no the second chronograph train wheel, the minute chronograph train wheel and the hour chronograph train wheel, in order to reduce the thickness of the movement/timepiece. Furthermore, the timepiece of Katsuyoshi does not teach calendar mechanism includes a date indicator and a date feeding mechanism and the date feeding mechanism not overlapping any one of the second indicating mechanism, arrange no the second chronograph train wheel, the minute chronograph train wheel and the hour chronograph train

Art Unit: 2841

wheel, in order to reduce the thickness of the movement/timepiece and there seems to be no motivation to modify the device shown in Katsuyoshi to accommodate such a calendar arrangement.

Claims 2-4 have been found to be allowable as being dependent upon the allowable claim 1.

Conclusion

The prior art made of record and not relied upon is considered pertinent to applicant's disclosure. The prior art cited in the PTO-892 disclose related devices. US 2004/0190381 to Tokoro et al., US 6,295,249 to Takahashi et al., US 6,185,158 to Ito et al., and US 3543,506 to Dubois et al. disclose a chronograph timepiece; and US 6567,345 to Furukawa et al. teaches a chronograph comprising an time display unit and a chronograph display unit which do not overlap each other.

Any comments considered necessary by applicant must be submitted no later than the payment of the issue fee and, to avoid processing delays, should preferably accompany the issue fee. Such submissions should be clearly labeled "Comments on Statement of Reasons for Allowance."

Any inquiry concerning this communication or earlier communications from the examiner should be directed to Jeanne-Marguerite Goodwin whose telephone number is (571) 272-2104.

Information regarding the status of an application may be obtained from the Patent Application Information Retrieval (PAIR) system. Status information for published applications may be obtained from either Private PAIR or Public PAIR. Status information for unpublished applications is available through Private PAIR only. For more information about the PAIR system, see <http://pair-direct.uspto.gov>. Should you have questions on access to the Private PAIR system, contact the Electronic Business Center (EBC) at (866) 217-9197 (toll-free).

JGM
03/16/06


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